

Rules for Editing Dialogue in Your Writing

- 1.) Quotation marks show where the exact words of a speaker begin and end.
ex: "Katie, let's go to the mall today," Camilla exclaimed.
- 2.) A comma separates the quotation from the words that tell who is speaking.
ex: "Katie, let's go to the mall today," Camilla said.
- 3.) A question mark or exclamation point takes the place of the comma. This means you put the question mark or exclamation point before the end quotation, and skip the comma.
ex: "Katie, do you want to go to the mall today?" Camilla asked.
- 4.) Some quotations are divided in two. If quotations are divided, don't capitalize the second part of the sentence, and use commas to separate the quotation from the speaker.
ex: "Katie, if we go to the mall," Camilla said, "you can buy a gift for your mom."
- 5.) If the divided quotation is two sentences, use a period after the words that tell who is speaking. Capitalize the first word of the new sentence.
ex: "Katie, do you want to go to the mall?" Camilla asked. "Then you can buy those pants you wanted."

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6.) Every time a speaker changes, start a new paragraph. This means you go to a new line and indent the line with each new speaker.
ex: (See below to see indentation)

→ "Katie, if we go to the mall," Camilla said, "you can buy a gift for your mom."
→ "Yeah, that sounds great, Camilla!" Katie responded.

7.) Capitalize the first word in a quotation, when it starts the sentence.
ex: "Katie, let's go to the mall today," Camilla said.

8.) When writing the quotation and speaker, if the words go to a new line, do not indent the new lines.
ex: "Katie, if we go to the mall," Camilla said, "you can buy a gift for your mom."

9.) After the dialogue, (when starting the story again) start a new paragraph. This means go to a new line and indent.
ex: (See below to see indentation)

→ "Katie, do you want to go to the mall?" Camilla asked.
→ The two girls loved going to the mall together and would go almost every weekend to meet friends.

Put Said to Bed

whispered	giggled	scolded	sang	agreed	advised
moaned	snorted	roared	exclaimed	reminded	clucked
groaned	snapped	screamed	wondered	begged	hollered
whimpered	barked	hissed	whistled	remarked	responded
asked	shouted	announced	yelled	gulped	mentioned
told	muttered	sneered	stuttered	croaked	bragged
questioned	howled	alerted	interrupted	blurted	protested
mumbled	yelped	blabbered	threatened	admitted	confessed
thundered	laughed	commanded	demanded	squeaked	ranted
snickered	growled	cried	mocked	uttered	warned
yodeled	bawled	boomed	whined	proclaimed	commented
wailed	bellowed	sighed	revealed	beamed	broadcasted